



SUPPORT OUR JUNIOR DOCTORS SUPPORT OUR NURSES and ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Nurses and Junior Doctors are the backbone of the NHS

This Government is treating them shabbily. It plans to impose a new contract on junior doctors and has announced the withdrawal of training bursaries for student nurses, midwives and allied health professionals. This is nothing to do with the '24/7 NHS' (which we already have). It is part of the Government's anti-public services prejudice and their attempts to cheapen the cost of training and wages in the NHS.

Student nurses work full time hours unpaid for half the 4500 hours of their 3 year training. They spend the remaining time in lectures and on study assignments. They do not get student holidays. **Their unpaid work saves the Government more than their tuition fees:** 92% are eligible for bursaries amounting to £84 per week; 85% already take on jobs to avoid debts, alongside their unpaid NHS work. Taking away the NHS Bursary will force many student nurses to work 70-hour weeks.

Junior doctors have rejected their new contract. Jeremy Hunt has promised nothing of substance and the contract remains a threat.



These attacks are both unsafe and unfair

Unsafe because the contract removes the safeguards against doctors in training working excessively long hours; and because student nurses will be working 70-hour weeks. How can anyone learn while that tired? This will increase risk to patients and the quality of care.

Unfair because for many doctors it will mean pay cuts and/or even longer antisocial hours; and because student nurses will be forced to pay tuition fees if bursaries are abolished, even though they work for the NHS while they study.

November: 98% of junior doctors voted for strike action in a 76% turnout

Most “junior” doctors have many years’ experience. They constitute the main medical workforce and are the doctors who tend to you if you are admitted to hospital day or night, 24/7. Junior doctors view striking as a last resort but they have been given no choice. The Government has refused to listen. Forced to negotiate briefly, Hunt still threatens to impose the contract. Consultants have backed juniors and promised to maintain emergency care, ensuring patients are not harmed. If the junior doctors lose this battle then it will be harder to recruit to areas like A&E which already suffer a serious shortage of doctors. Those in post will work more antisocial hours and be more tired; many may leave the NHS.

148,000-strong petition wins nurse bursary parliament debate 11 January

But if the student nurses lose their battle then the NHS is undermined further. 4000 training places have been lost since 2010. The desperate shortage of nurses and reliance on agency staff will worsen. Demoralised staff will leave.

The junior doctors and student nurses are now in the front line

They are defending a high quality NHS – an NHS run by well-supported staff who are able to give of their best when caring for you.

The Government will attack the jobs of other NHS staff next: underfunding core NHS services and privatising lucrative areas.

Keep Our NHS Public supports our NHS staff in their hour of need – join us in this campaign to defend our NHS as the most valuable public service, the envy of the world, yet under constant attack from this Government.

**Stand by the doctors and nurses. Stand up for the NHS.
Join us today.**



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